

SRI S. NIJALINGAPPA.—The quantum of work is judged by the work available in the High Court. In consideration of it we appoint Advocate General and when more pleaders are necessary we will appoint.

Shahabad Stone Quarries.

***Q.—125. SRI J. P. SARWESH (Serum).—**

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of applications for lease of Shahabad Stone Quarries, that are pending consideration before the State Government;

(b) the names of the Shahabad Stone Companies that have applied for lease in Gulbarga District along with the dates of applications;

(c) the steps the Government have taken to convince the Government of India, that the sanction of lease of Shahabad Stone Quarries in Gulbarga District would not affect the contemplated Cement Companies?

A.—SRI K. MALLAPPA (Minister for Industries and Commerce).—

(a) 50 applications. Out of 50 applications pending, 16 applications are for grant of Mining Lease for Limestone (Shahabad Stone) under Mineral Concession Rules 1960, and the remaining 34 are for quarry leases under Minor Mineral Rules, 1954, of erstwhile Hyderabad State.

(b) *Vide* detailed statements placed on the Table of the House. *

(c) All possible steps are being taken.

SRI J. P. SARWESH.—May I know the reason for the prolonged delay in giving license?

† **SRI K. MALLAPPA.**—It is due to the fact that the Government of India are prohibiting leasing out of limestone mines to private people. They wanted reservation to be made for the purpose of steel industry.

SRI J. P. SARWESH.—Is it a fact that the Government have decided to grant lease for other applicants?

SRI K. MALLAPPA.—There are two classes of applications. One class is regular mining for a long period and another for quarrying purposes. Quarrying is permitted. In November 1965 we have taken a decision to permit quarrying.

SRI J. P. SARWESH.—May I know the names of applicants who got sanction for fresh quarries for this year?

MR. SPEAKER.—It is all found in the list placed before the House.

SRI K. MALLAPPA.—These are the applications pending. I have already explained that on account of the ban imposed by the Government of India we were not able to give leases. We have taken a decision in November 1965 to permit quarrying.